

HOUSE BILL 534

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By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2011

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Polling Places – Electioneering Boundaries**

3 **MC 19–11**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the location of the line beyond which electioneering is
5 prohibited outside a polling place in Montgomery County; and generally relating
6 to electioneering at a polling place in Montgomery County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Election Law
9 Section 16–206
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2010 Replacement Volume)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Election Law**

15 16–206.

16 (a) A person may not:

17 (1) place any distinguishing mark on the person's own or another
18 person's ballot for the purpose of identifying the ballot;

19 (2) misrepresent the person's ability to mark a ballot or operate voting
20 equipment;

21 (3) interfere or attempt to interfere with a voter while the voter is
22 inside the polling room, marking a ballot, or operating voting equipment;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) induce or attempt to induce a voter to mark the voter's ballot in a
2 certain way;

3 (5) except for servicing by an authorized person, unlock any locked
4 compartment of a voting device unless instructed to do so by the election director;

5 (6) destroy or deface a ballot;

6 (7) remove a ballot from a building in which voting occurs, except as
7 otherwise provided in this article;

8 (8) delay the delivery of a ballot;

9 (9) possess on or before the day of election an official ballot printed for
10 the election, unless the possession of the ballot is necessary and appropriate for
11 carrying out the election process; or

12 (10) canvass, electioneer, or post any campaign material in the polling
13 place or beyond a line established by signs posted in accordance with subsection (b) of
14 this section.

15 (b) (1) At each polling place, one election judge from each principal
16 political party shall be designated by the local board and, acting jointly, shall post
17 signs delineating a line around the entrance and exit of the building that are closest to
18 that part of the building in which voting occurs.

19 (2) (I) [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF**
20 **THIS PARAGRAPH, THE** line shall be located as near as practicable to 100 feet from
21 the entrance and exit and shall be established after consideration of the configuration
22 of the entrance and the effect of placement on public safety and the flow of pedestrian
23 and vehicular traffic.

24 **(II) IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, THE LINE SHALL BE**
25 **LOCATED AS NEAR AS PRACTICABLE TO 25 FEET FROM THE ENTRANCE AND**
26 **EXIT.**

27 (3) The signs shall contain the words "No Electioneering Beyond this
28 Point".

29 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and is
30 subject to a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more
31 than 60 days or both.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 October 1, 2011.